

## Final Vehicles and the Continuity of Consciousness according to the Tenet Systems

	Hearer/Solitary Realizer Arhats	Buddhas
<b>Vaibashika &amp; Sautrantika</b>	<u>Three final vehicles:</u> The mental continuum of Arhats is severed when they achieve Nirvana without remainder	Only very few sentient beings attain Buddhahood. A Buddha's mental continuum is severed when he has passed away.
<b>Cittamatra Following Scripture</b>	<u>Three final vehicles:</u> 1) The mental continuum of <i>Arhats Exclusively Aiming for Peace</i> * is severed when they achieve Nirvana without remainder 2) <i>Thoroughly Transforming Arhats</i> do not achieve Nirvana without remainder but enter the Mahayana path to become fully enlightened.	A Buddha's mental continuum is not severed. With the exception of <i>Arhats Exclusively Aiming for Peace</i> , all sentient beings attain enlightenment.
<b>A small section of the Cittamatra Following Reasoning</b>	<u>Three final vehicles:</u> 1) The mental continuum of <i>Arhats Exclusively Aiming for Peace</i> is not severed when they achieve Nirvana without remainder, but they do not enter the Mahayana path. 2) <i>Thoroughly Transforming Arhats</i> do not attain Nirvana without remainder but enter the Mahayana path to become fully enlightened.	A Buddha's mental continuum is not severed. With the exception of <i>Arhats Exclusively Aiming for Peace</i> , all sentient beings attain enlightenment.
<b>Most followers of the Cittamatra Following Reasoning</b>	<u>One final vehicle:</u> Hearer and Solitary Arhats enter the Mahayana path before or after they attain Nirvana without remainder.	All sentient beings attain enlightenment.
<b>Madhyamika</b>	<u>One final vehicle:</u> Hearer and Solitary Arhats enter the Mahayana path before or after they attain Nirvana without remainder.	All sentient beings attain enlightenment.

\* Only the followers of the Cittamatra who assert three final vehicles divide Arhats into (a) *Arhats Exclusively Aiming for Peace* and (b) *Thoroughly Transforming Arhats*.